



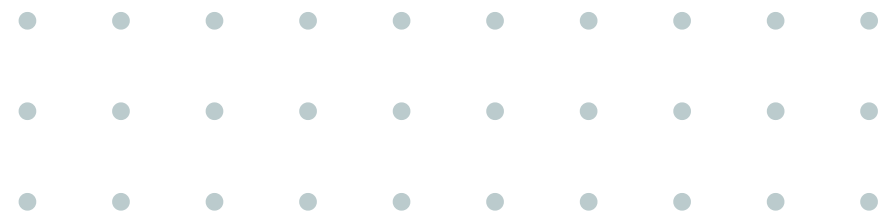
Missoula Neighborhoods
Engage • Educate • Empower

FY 2026 ENERGIZE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROJECTS

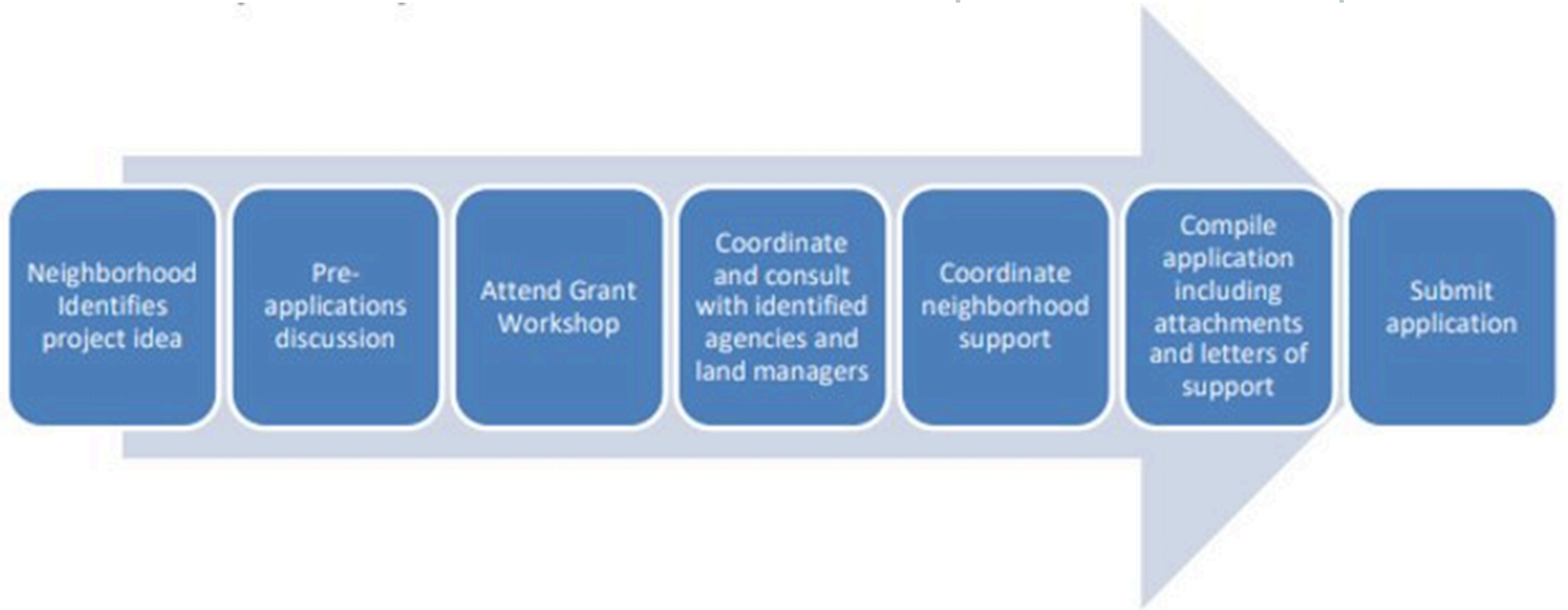
*Housing, Redevelopment, and Community Programs Committee
April 15, 2026*

GRANT OVERVIEW

- Goal is to strengthen neighborhood participation and connection
- City Council allocates \$20,000
 - **New this year:** Increase of \$15,000
- Awards up to \$6,000
- Projects must be within city limits
- 2026 Grants:
 - 12 grant applications submitted
 - Total \$ requested: \$54,671.82



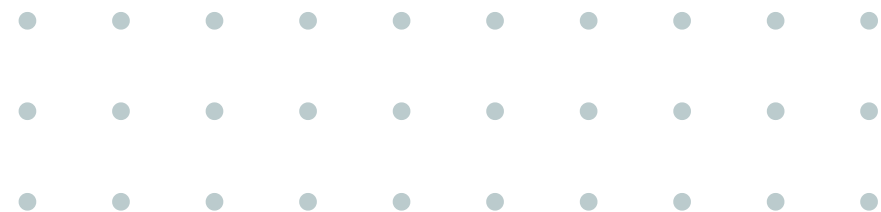
GRANT PROCESS



GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE

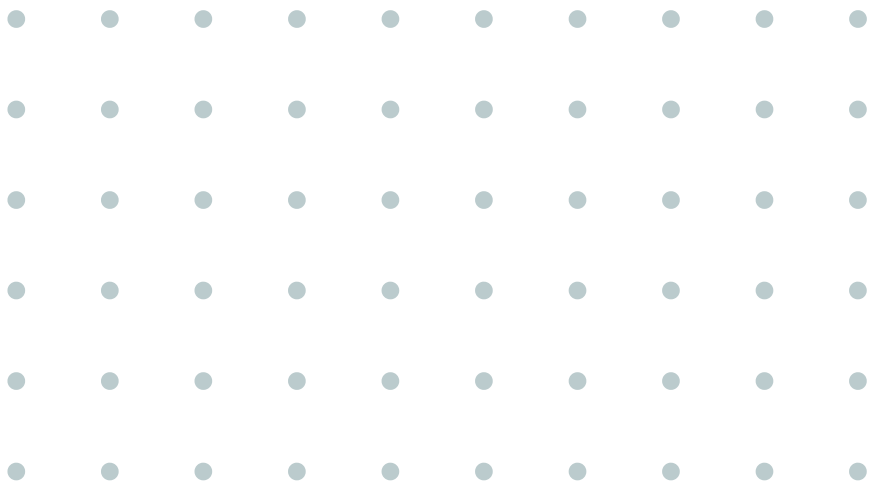
- Bill Van Horn, Lewis & Clark
- Bradley Layton, Lower Rattlesnake
- Jenn Worrell, Franklin to the Fort
- Judy Molland, Upper Rattlesnake
- Kate Wilson, River Road
- Lisa Carpenter, University District
- Jennifer Savage, City Council

Ward 1 Rep



COMMITTEE TIMELINE

- December 1: Grant Applications Submitted
- February 6: Internal & Subcommittee Review Comments Gathered
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Transportation
 - Community Planning, Development, and Innovation
- February 20: Grant Review Committee Meeting
- March 19: Grant Review Committee Meeting
- March 23: Grant Review Committee Meeting
 - Final Recommendation
- March 26: Community Forum
- April 15: City Council Committee
- April 20: City Council



SCORING RUBRIC

<u>Metric or Area</u>	<u>Total Possible Score</u>	<u>Percentage of Score</u>
Project Description: Clear Articulation of the project goals and the project vision	10	10%
Project Description: Physical Improvements	10	10%
Community Need: Demonstrated Community Need	15	15%
Community Benefit: Demonstrated Community Benefit	15	15%
Citizen Support: Demonstrated Community Engagement	20	20%
Project Feasibility: Demonstrated Financial Support	10	10%
Project Feasibility: Sustainability and Maintenance	10	10%
Project Feasibility: Project Schedule	10	10%

FY2026 GRANT APPLICATIONS



GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant Project	Neighborhood	Requested	Recommended
Bolle Birdwatching Trail Signs	Lower Rattlesnake	\$6,000	\$6,000
Rain Garden Project	Rose Park	\$6,000	\$6,000
Cool Schools at Russell Elementary School	Lewis & Clark	\$6,000	\$5,000
Irrigation for Bellevue Park	Southgate Triangle	\$6,000	\$4,500
Meadow Hill Outdoor Learning Space Revitalization	MCG/S39	\$6,000	\$6,000
6th Street Pocket Park	Franklin to the Fort	\$2,000	\$1,500
Bonnie's Place Speed Table	Franklin to the Fort	\$6,000	\$4,000
Free the Northside Block Party	Northside/Westside	\$3,000	\$2,000

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant Project	Neighborhood	Requested	Recommended
Willard School Mural Project	Riverfront	\$6,000	No funding
Splash Montana Conrol Box Art Project	Lewis & Clark	\$2,900	No funding
1-Sided Park Message Board	Miller Creek	\$3,000	No funding
Mullan Road Walkway Landscaping	Captain John Mullan	\$1,771.82	No funding

GRANT SCORING

RANK (all)		SCORE (out of 1200)
1	Bolle Birdwatching Signs	1097
2	Rain Garden Project	1091
3	Cool Schools at Russell Elementary School	1080
4	Irrigation for Bellevue Park	1049
5	Meadow Hill Outdoor space	1048
6	6th Street Pocket Park	1040
7	Bonnie's Place Speed Table Project	1029
8	Willard School Mural Project	1000
9	Splash MT Control Box Art Project	990
9	Park Message Board	990
11	Free the Northside Block Party	947
12	Mullan Road Walkway	939

Bolle Birdwatching Trail Signs in Greenough Park

- **Neighborhood:** Lower Rattlesnake
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$6,000
- **Project:** Design and install a new sign with the Chickadee (Helen Bolle's favorite bird), update and replace main sign, review and update existing signs, and replace frames and structures.
- **Comments:**
 - Fantastic community support
 - Loved the history around the proposal!

Helen Bolle



Rain Garden in the Slant Street Gateway

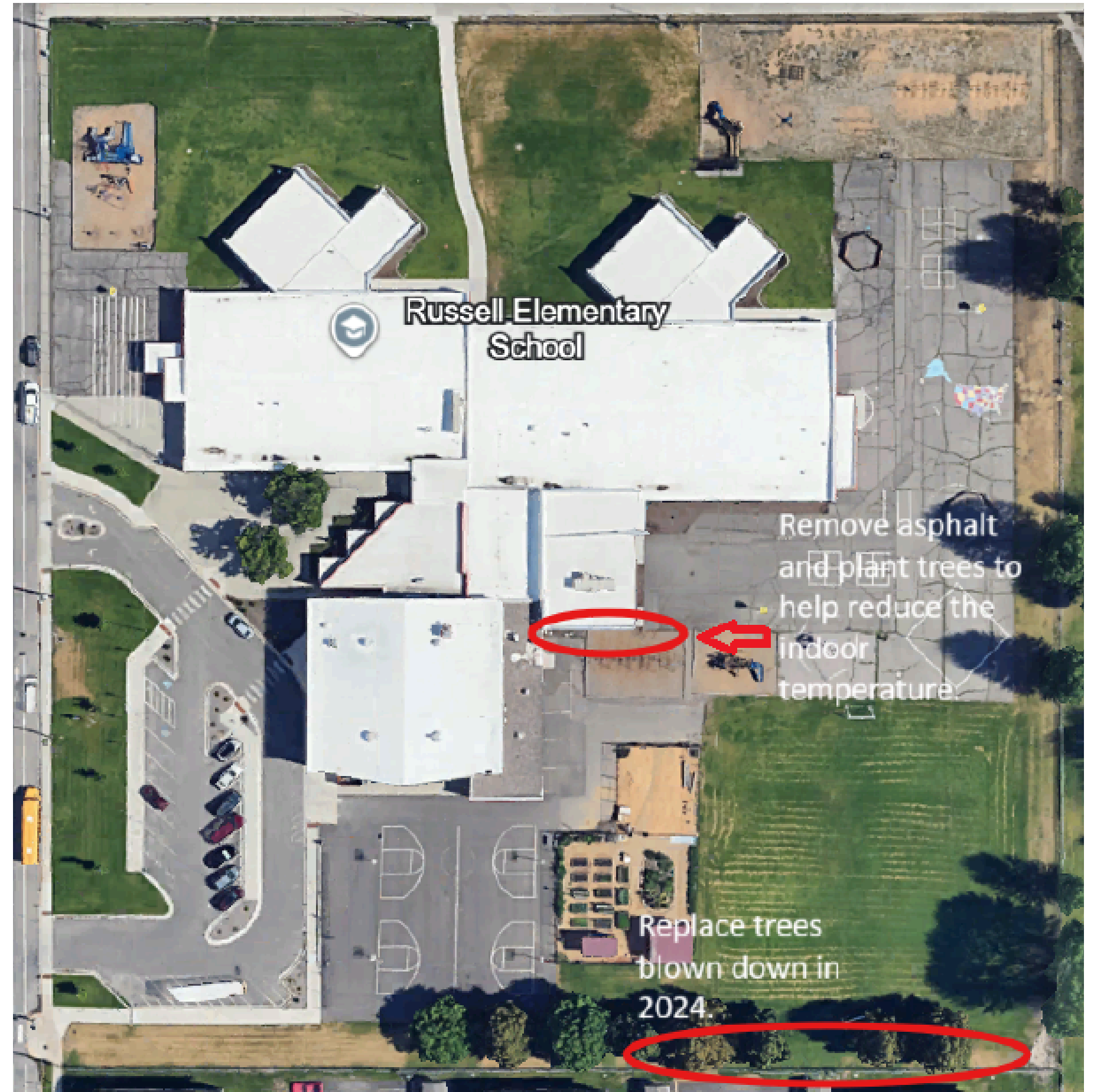
- **Neighborhood:** Rose Park
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$6,000
- **Project:** Construct a bioretention rain garden with graded inflow, engineered soils, mulch and native pollinator-supportive plantings. Install interpretive signage and host community workshops & planting days



- **Comments:**
 - Large amount of community support for an improvement to this area for 10 years+
 - Great support from the City of Missoula and community orgs

Cool Schools at Russell Elementary School

- **Neighborhood:** Lewis & Clark
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$5,000
- **Project:** Plant 9 trees at Russell Elementary to replace trees lost in the windstorm of 2024 and to increase quality of life for students and the physical improvement of the school.
- **Comments:**
 - Great community support from many neighbors and parents at the school
 - Multi-phased project that will help reduce heat and improve quality of life



Irrigation for Bellevue Park Trees

- **Neighborhood:** Southgate Triangle
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$4,500
- **Project:** Install drip irrigation throughout Bellevue Park - continuation of previous Tree Planting Grant
- **Comments:**
 - Working in close collaboration with Parks
 - Direct correlation with the Bellevue Park Master Plan
 - Sees this as a successful project with long-term benefits



Meadow Hill Outdoor Learning Space Revitalization

- **Neighborhood:** South 39th
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$6,000
- **Project:** Second phase of a previously awarded grant - aims to further improve the space by adding a gazebo for shade and constructing an ADA pathway
- **Comments:**
 - Loved the proposal and the work that has already been done to this space.
 - Great connection with the school in a neighborhood with not many third spaces.



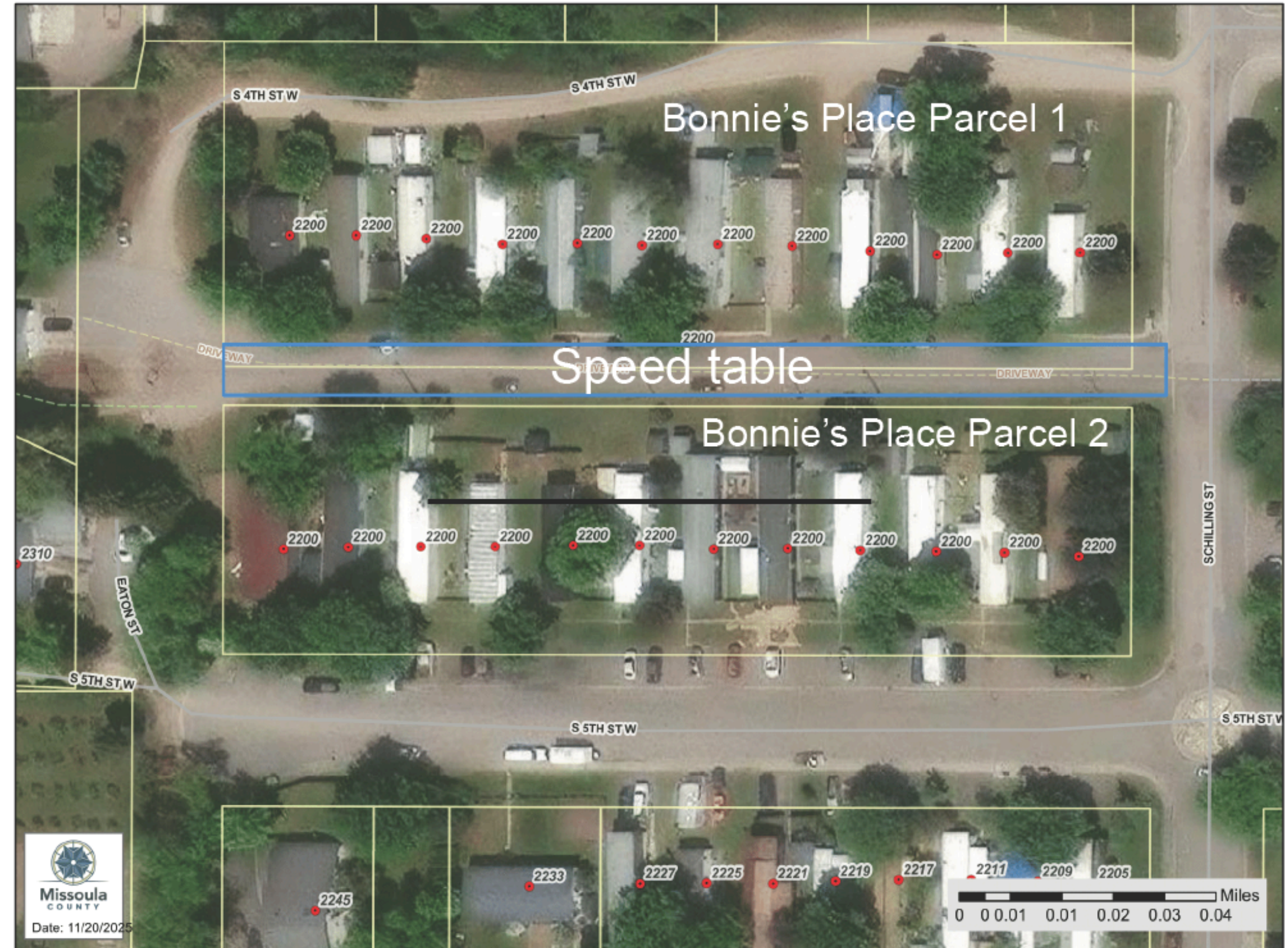
6th Street Pocket Park

- **Neighborhood:** Franklin to the Fort
- **Amount Requested:** \$2,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$1,500
- **Project:** Aims to create a small pocket park at the dead end of 6th street and transform it into a vibrant green space and a safe walkway for pedestrians.
- **Comments:**
 - Loved the small project idea
 - Sees the benefit of enhancing the underutilized space with a smaller amount of funding



Bonnie's Place Speed Table Project

- **Neighborhood:** Franklin to the Fort
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** \$4,000
- **Project:** Install a speed table in the Resident Owned Community at 2200 S. 5th Street W to manage speeding in the alleyway.
- **Comments:**
 - Committee agreed that although this project had a smaller community benefit, they also saw that this could be a big impact for this community



The material displayed on this page is informational and should be used for reference only. No reliance should be placed thereon without verification by the user. Missoula County does not warrant that the information is either complete or accurate. No representation, warranties or covenants of any kind are made by Missoula County. Before acting on the information contained on this page the user should consult original documents.

Free the Northside Block Party: The History and Future of Northside Organizing

- Neighborhood: Northside
- Amount Requested: \$3,000
- Recommended Award: \$2,000
- Project: Aims to host a block party to showcase the community organizing history in the neighborhood as well as celebrate the renaming of the recently reopened pedestrian bridge over the railroad.
- Comments:
 - Loved the community connection piece and large amount of community support
 - Different type of grant project



Willard School Mural Project

- **Neighborhood:** Riverfront
- **Amount Requested:** \$6,000
- **Recommended Award:** No recommended funding
- **Project:** Paint a mural on the bulb out section of 6th Street by Willard School.
- **Comments:**
 - Loved the idea and that it is based off another successful traffic mural project
 - No confirmed approval from Willard School or feasibility from Public Works
 - Encourage the project to come back next year!



Splash Montana Control Box Art Project

- **Neighborhood:** Lewis & Clark
- **Amount Requested:** \$2,900
- **Recommended Award:** No recommended funding
- **Project:** Replace artwork that had been destroyed a few years ago. This wrap showcased historical art boxes in Missoula.
- **Comments:**
 - Good community support, however this project scored on the lower end
 - Encourages this project to come back in the future!



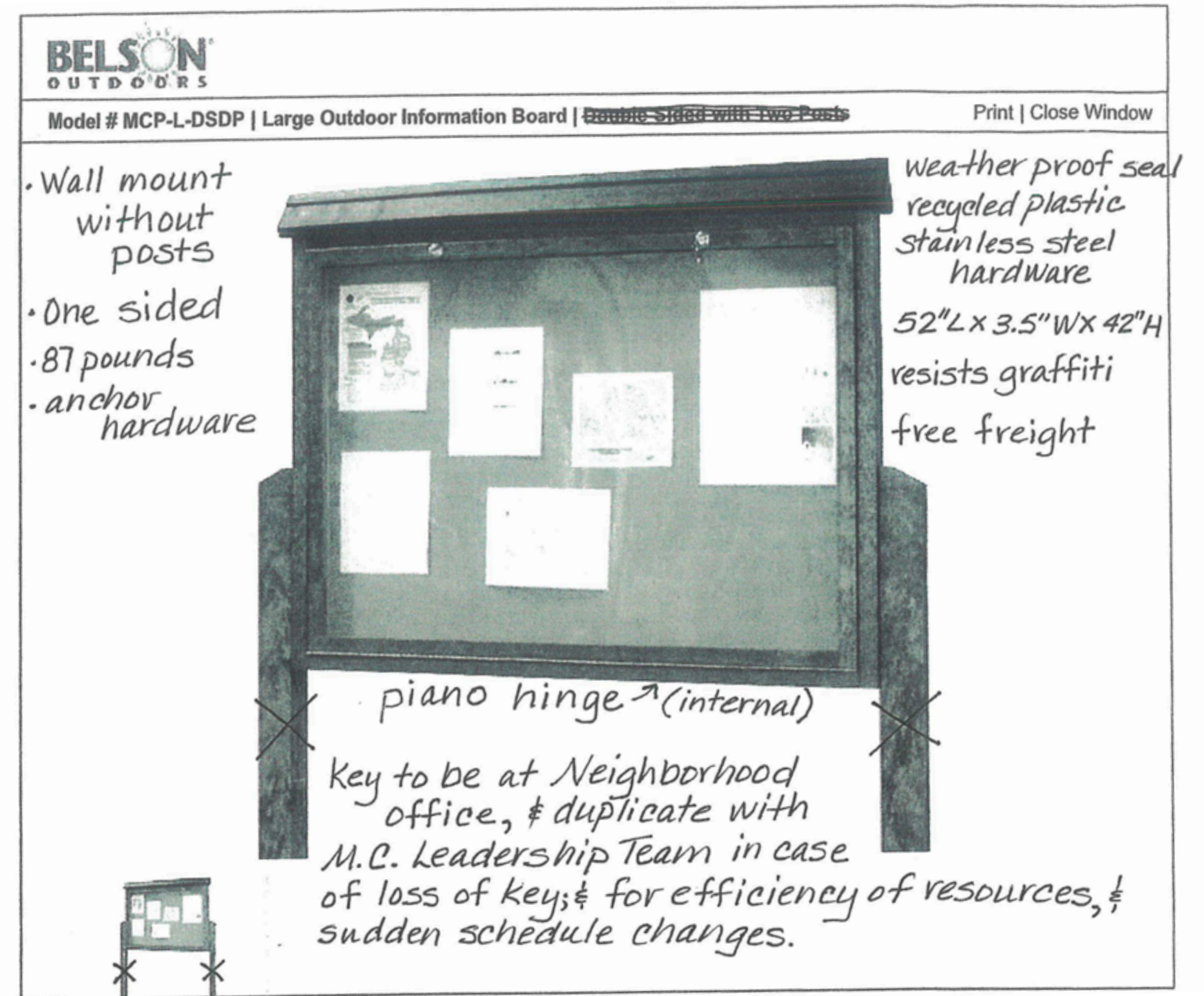
Missoula Neighborhood Project Large Grant Application: Splash Montana Utility Box Art Project

1-Sided Park Message Board

- **Neighborhood:** Miller Creek
- **Amount Requested:** \$3,000
- **Recommended Award:** No recommended funding
- **Project:** Install a one-sided message board at Marilyn Park to serve as a place neighbors could find information from the City and/or Neighborhood.

- **Comments:**

- Loved the idea and the support for the project
- Parks & Recreation did not give their support for this project - working with them to create a possible policy in the future



Mullan Road Walkway Landscaping

- **Neighborhood:** Captain John Mullan
- **Amount Requested:** \$1,771.82
- **Recommended Award:** No recommended funding
- **Project:** Replace trees damaged from the windstorm of 2024 - remove tree stumps and help plant new trees.
- **Comments:**
 - Committee saw the benefit for the project
 - The grant narrative was aligned with previous idea of traffic safety improvements
 - Concern about broader community improvement



COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

- Three meetings were held to discuss all projects and possible funding options.
- Funding recommendations were created through scoring, committee discussions and follow-up questions and answers.
- The committee prioritized projects in which the grant funds would be more impactful and had clear feasibility.
- The committee saw the benefit of all submitted grant projects and wanted to express that if a grant proposal was not awarded this year, the team would still like to see it in the future.



RECOMMENDED FUNDING

The grant committee is recommending funding for eight (8) of the twelve (12) grant applications that were submitted.

Recommended Motion:

- **To adopt a resolution of the City Council awarding \$35,000 in Neighborhood Improvement Grant Funds for fiscal year 2026 to certain individuals and directing staff to negotiate contracts with said individuals for the Mayor’s signature.**

Grant Project	General	Park	Road
Bolle Birdwatching Trail Signs	-	\$6,000	-
Rain Garden Project	-	-	\$6,000
Cool Schools at Russell Elementary	\$5,000	-	-
Irrigation for Bellevue Park	\$3,000	\$1,500	-
Meadow Hill Outdoor Learning Space Revitalization	\$6,000	-	-
6th Street Pocket Park	\$1,500	-	-
Bonnie’s Place Speed Table	\$2,500	-	\$1,500
Free the Northside Block Party	\$2,000	-	-



THANK YOU

Kalina Pritchard, Neighborhood Specialist
Melissa Glueckert, Neighborhood Specialist

(406) 552-6081
PritchardK@ci.missoula.mt.us

(406) 552-6084
GlueckertM@ci.missoula.mt.us

www.missoula-neighborhoods.com